



The Complaint of the County of *Brecon*, against the undue proceedings of the Sheriff of that County, and false return by him made of *Edmund Jones* as Knight for that Shire.

With Articles and Exceptions, setting forth the incapacity of the said *Edmund Jones*, to sit as Representative in Parliament, he being a Compounded Delinquent on Record at Goldsmiths-Hall, and therefore not qualified according to the Articles of the Government, &c.

To the right Honorable the Council of State to his Highness the Lord Protector,

The humble Petition and Certificat of the Gentry, Free-holders, and Inhabitants of the County of *Brecon*.

Humbly Shewing,

That according to a Writ issued from his Highness the Lord Protector and his most honorable Council, for the free Election of two Knights to serve for this County of *Brecon* in the next ensuing Parliament to be held for this Commonwealth of *England* the third day of *September* next, and directed to *John Williams* High Sheriff of the said County;

ty; we did upon Proclamation and Summons, in obedience to the said Writ assemble our selves in the Castle Green of *Brecon*, upon the 12 day of this instant *July* in all quiet and peaceable manner, and without any Armes, according to a private Order of Sessions that day proclaimed for the purpose therein mentioned: And being persons Qualified according to the Act of *The Government of the Commonwealth*, were divers wayes interrupted, menaced, and terrified from giving our Votes according to our Consciences, and not enjoying a free Election according to his Highnesse and his Councils Articles therein provided, Occasioned chiefly by the said Sheriff (not performing (as we conceive) his duty according to the 13th Article,) his Under Sheriff, Bryliffs, and Jaylors, and other Agents, (being with divers others all armed, contrary to their own Order) who did dragg and hale many of the Inhabitants to vote for Mr. *Edmond Jones*, a person incapable of such Trust, according to the 14th Article being in service against the Parliament, and a Compounded Delinquent.

And notwithstanding that we being allowed and thought fit to be a number competent for the Pole, in the behalf of another person capable of the said Trust, and qualified according to the said Articles, were denied to put in our just exceptions made against divers persons, who were in many respects incapable and disabled of Voting in his behalf, and not qualified according to the 18th Article: We were therefore constrained, both in respect of our Duty to God, obedience to his Highnesse the Lord Protector, his Honourable Council, and Publique good, and interest of our whole County, To declare and protest publicly and unanimously against the undue Carriage and illegal Proceedings of the said High Sheriff, *Edmond Jones* and their parties interested therein: And do hereby make hold to certify your Honours of the said illegal Election of *Edmond Jones*, continuing our protestation against it, and humbly beseeching your Honours the Examination of their whole proceedings in the said businesse before he be approved, being ready to make due proof of the premises, submitting our selves to your Honours
grave

grave judgements for our Redresses herein in what manner shall seem fittest to your Honours for a new and free Election.

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|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Henry Williams | Roger Vaughan | William Ambrey |
| Edward Vaughan | James Watkins | Thomas John David |
| Richard Herbert | John Prosser, | Roger Lloyd |
| Morgan Jones | William Powel | Llew. Jenkins |
| John Vaughan | Philip Williams | Llewes Watkins |
| Thomas Vaughan | James Williams | Henry Parsons |
| Robert Walbeise | Rich. Winter | Walter Williams |
| Thomas Powel | Walter Winter | Jenkin Williams. |
| Jeffery Lewes | William Powel | |

With hundreds more much aggrieved.

Exceptions against Edmund Jones Esq. setting forth his incapacity of being intrusted or elected as a Member of Parliament.

1. **F**irst. For that he was notoriously disaffected to the late Parliament, for whom he never did any Service.

2. That he deserted his Chamber in Grays-Inne, and repaired in the time of the war to Oxford, and did there agitate for the Popish Forces of Ragland and other Enemies of the Commonwealth, against the Parliament.

3. That he during his abroad there, did much further the Irish Rebellions, by suing out Commissions for divers of the Irish Rebels, and furthering their designs.

4. That by that means he came into such favour with the late King and the Earl of Worcester, that he was nominated Commissioner of Array and Association for the County of Monmouth, where he did use his uttermost endeavours (being a Counsellor at Law) to draw the said County to yield obedience thereto.

5. That he was Treasurer for the said King in the said County, and received several vast sums of money, for which there is no account as yet given to the Commonwealth.

6. That he did presse men, and raise horses and arms for the late King and his Forces against the Parliament, and did thereby much advance the late Kings service in those parts.

7. That he was a main agent and instrument for the Popish party, and forces under the Earl of Worcester in the Garrison of Ragland, being one in whom he so much confided, that he did convey the

said Earl in a disguise in safety through the Parliaments Quarters
and Garisons.

8. That for these and for other his delinquencies, the said *Edmond Jones* was voted a delinquent by the Committee of the County of *Monmouth*, with whom he compounded at an under value for his personal Estate, and since likewise compounded at an under value with the Committee at *Goldsmiths Hall* for his reall Estate, by that means owning his said Guilt, and submitting to the Parliaments mercy for the said offences, and therefore not capable (as we humbly conceive) to be a Member of Parliament, having never been in the service of the Parliament, nor given any signal testimony of his affection to the present cause, further than by a Politick compliance with some in power in those parts when the war was ended, by which means he hath avoided an accompt for the monies received by him as Treasurer for the late King and by the favour of some persons (to advance a particular interest, and get into some places both of honour and profit to himself, viz. to be Attorney Gen. of *Southwales*, which he obtained by an Order of some of the Council of State, appointed by the last Parl. who were wholly ignorant of the said *Jones* high delinquency, which place the said *Edmond Jones* doth now hold and execute contrary to the severall Acts and Ordinances of Parliament in that behalf made, wherein he hath miscarried himself in many particulars, as will be sufficiently proved, if this honourable Council think fit to direct a proceeding therein.

THese are to certifie whom it may concern, That *Edmond Jones* of *Landsay* in the County of *Monmouth* Gent. paid into the Treasury at *Goldsmiths Hall* the 20 of March 1646, the sum of Thirty five pounds, three shillings, and four-pence in part, and the 7 of Feb. 1647, the like sum of Thirty five pounds, three shillings, & four-pence, being the last moiety, and in full of his Seventy pounds six shillings and eight-pence Fine, imposed upon him as a Fine for his Delinquency against the Parliament. And for which monies paid as aforesaid, was given him two Printed Receipts under the hands of *Richard Waring*, and *Michael Herring*, late Treasurer at *Goldsmiths Hall*, which at the request of *Sir Hen: Williams* is certified this 23. of July 1654. by

J. s. d.

Michael Herring.

35-03-4

35-03-4

Fine paid, 70-06-8 Examined by *Jos: Bateman.*

Except

Exceptions against the undue election of Edmond Jones Esq; as Knight for the County of Brecon, setting forth the grosse partiality of John Williams Esq; high Sheriff of the said County, and the imperfect, irregular, and false return by him wittingly and willingly made, contrary to the expresse letter of the Government of the Commonwealth of England, &c. Published by his Highness the Lord Protectors Special Commandment.

1 **F**irst we do aver, and shall be ready to prove and make good, That the said High Sheriff hath borne Arms for the late King, and otherwise hath ayded, advised, abetted, and assisted in the late warr against the Parliament, and in that respect incapable (as we humbly conceive) to make a return of Election of Members to sit in Parliament.

2. That the said Sheriff out of his desire to promote persons of the like Principles as himself to the next Parliament, did by all ways and means labour to preingage divers of the Gentlemen and Freeholders of the said County to give their votes for the said *Edmond Jones*, And for that purpose did procure divers of them to subscribe for the said *Jones* three weeks before the election.

3. That upon the day of election, being the 12 of *July* instant, the said Sheriff did shew himself most grossly partiall on the behalf of the said *Jones*, in these particulars following.

In admitting such to vote for the said *Jones*; who were not quallified, nor capable to vote, particularly, *Mr. Edward Gwyn*, who was for a long time a Captain in Armes for the late King, and as Colonel did lead the Country against the Parliaments Forces: *Watkin Vaughan Esq;* who was likewise Colonel for the said late King: *Edward Williams Esq;* who as Colonel did lead his division against the Parliaments Forces, and vigorously acted as Commander of Array for the King: *Meredith Lewes Esq;* who

who was an active Commissioner of Array for the late King: *Thomas Williams* Esq; who was Judge Advocate, and in Armes for the late King: *Thomas Vaughan* an Officer under Colonel *Price* for the late King: *John Roberts*, *Morgan Ambrey*, and others listed Sculdiers under the said Colonel *Price*; *Mathew Herbert*, *Henry Herbert*, *Richard Vaughan*, *Richard Lewes*, *David Phillip*, *John Lewes*, and most of the rest of the Electors returned, have under the command of the said persons, or otherwise ayded, advised, assisted and abetted in the late War against the Parliament, whereby they became incapable to Vote in election of Members for Parliament (as we humbly conceive) according to the Government of the Commonwealth of *England*, &c. and several other Acts and Ordinances of Parliament, having not been since in the service of the Parliament, nor given any signal testimony of their good affection thereto.

4. In admitting persons to Vote for the said *Jones* who had not a competent estate according to the direction and qualification of the said Government.

5. In putting off and thrusting by such Freeholders as came to the place to give their Vote for *Henry Williams* Esq; though qualified to Vote,

6. In hindering the Clerks appointed by *Williams* party to take notice of and except against such persons as were not qualified and capable to vote for *Jones*.

7. In suffering all that were for *Jones* to be in Armes, and amongst them the most notorious in the late Kings party in those parts, and disarming, threatening and discountenancing such who were for *Williams*.

8. In permitting if not abetting divers persons who were armed of *Jones* his party to lay violent hands and to hale in to their partie divers of those who were for *Williams*, whereby they were forced to Vote for *Jones*.

9. For the better performance thereof, the said *Jones* did openly threaten such who Voted against him, and *Leffery Williams* the Deputy Sheriff (whose name is returned as an Elector) did openly say, that such as would not give their Votes with *Jones* should lie by it.

10. *William Watkins* (formerly Lieutenant under Major Gen. *Har.*

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Harrison) did lay hold on his Sword, and threatned to draw his Sword against *William James*, who was of *Williams* party, and had only a whip to defend himself, all which was done by the said *William Watkins* because the said *William James* did appear and Vote on the behalf of Mr. *Henry Williams*.

11. The High Sheriff himself said, that he was resolved to return *Jones*, though he were sure to pay the Fine; who made good his Word therein, although the said Mr. *Williams* had by far a greater number of voices, of Freeholders and others qualified and capable to elect Members for Parliament, and himself a person of known worth and integrity, The said *Jones* being a Voted and compounded Delinquent of Record at Haberdashers and Goldsmiths Hall, as by a true Copy of his Petition, particulars and Fine paid, attested by the Clerks and Treasurer, hereto annexed, may appear; Whereby the said *Edmond Jones* is (as is humbly conceived) incapable to be elected a Member for Parliament, by the expresse Articles of the said Government of the Commonwealth of *England*, and the several former Acts and Ordinances of Parliament.

12. That the said Sheriff in the Indenture returned by him doth not mention the places of abode of the Electors subscribed thereto, whereby they might be the better known and distinguished from those that Voted for *Henry Williams Esq;* and their delinquency and incapacity more clearly detected and discovered. The said Sheriff having returned the names of *Morgan Jones*, *William Williams*, *Thomas Williams*, *Thomas Powell*, *Ienkin Williams*, *Walter Williams*, *James Watkins* Gent. and others who Voted for *Henry Williams*, so that the return is imperfect and erroneous in that particular as is humbly conceived.

13. That the said Sheriff (to make a greater shew of appearance of persons of quality on the behalf of the said *Jones*, and the better to countenance his said false return) did return *Williams Morgan Esq;* *Edward Gwyn Esq;* *Walter Vaughan Esq;* *Richard Games Esq;* as Electors, whereas in truth there are no such persons within the said County of *Brecon*.

14. Mr. *Edmond Jones* came to the Poal and held it in his own hand and said, he would be even with most of those that Voted against him whatsoever it cost him, so that all the Inhabitants

that

that Voted not for *Jones* are unsafe in their persons and estates, if the said *Jones* should be admitted a Representative for the said County.

15. *William Morgan* voting for *Jones* layed violent hands on *John Powell*, and *Llewelin Jenkins* Gent, to force them from the place, and hinder them to give their voices for *Henry Williams* Esq; for whom they did declare.

16. *Edward Williams* a person that formerly assisted, advised and abetted in the late war against the Parliament, and impeached in the charge of the Army as a Person incapable of trust for the Parliament, and now charged with apparant disaffection; if not high Treason against his Highnesse the Lord Protector, was permitted to stand by the Poal and not only to Vote for *Jones*, but also to affront, discourage, and discountenance such as offered to Vote for *Mr. Williams*.

17. *Howell Llewelin* Servant to Col *Iefferies* who have been both in all the late wars against the Parliament, was permitted by the Sheriff and his Officers to dragg several persons to Vote for *Jones*.

FINIS!



